

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Original) An acetylene distribution system, comprising:  
a first and a second transportable source of compressed acetylene; and  
an acetylene filling assembly for filling acetylene into each transportable source,  
whereby the acetylene filling assembly fills a first tank to a first level and thereafter fills a  
second tank while continuing to fill the first tank and the acetylene filling assembly  
restricting the flow of acetylene to the second tank while continuing to fill the first tank.
2. (Original) The acetylene distribution system of claim 1, whereby the first  
transportable source comprises a first trailer assembly and the second transportable  
source comprises a second trailer assembly, whereby each the first and the second  
trailer assembly includes a plurality of cylinders.
3. (Original) The acetylene distribution system of claim 2, whereby the plurality  
of cylinders are interconnected by a manifold system.
4. (Original) The acetylene distribution system of claim 3, whereby the acetylene  
filling system includes more than one fill bay, whereby a scale and a computer system  
are located in the respective fill bay to monitor the acetylene entering the fill bay.
5. (Original) The acetylene distribution system of claim 4, whereby the first and  
the second trailer assembly is placed in the respective fill bay to be filled with acetylene.
6. (Original) The acetylene distribution system of claim 5, further including a  
transportable gas regulating apparatus for unloading the acetylene from the  
transportable source to a point of use.
7. (Original) The acetylene distribution system of claim 6, whereby the  
apparatus for unloading the acetylene from the transportable source is mounted on a  
skid.

8. (Currently Amended) A transportable acetylene distribution apparatus, comprising:

- a piping system to act as a fluid conduit for the distribution of acetylene;
- at least one valve connected to the piping system, whereby the at least one valve controls the flow of acetylene;
- at least one pressure regulating member connected to the piping system;
- at least one connector attached to the piping system for connecting the distribution apparatus to a point of use; [[and]]  
an extendable arm for providing a fluid pathway into the piping system from at least one acetylene cylinder; and
- a platform, whereby the piping system is disposed on the platform.

9. (Original) The acetylene distribution apparatus of claim 8, whereby the platform is connected to a skid, thereby allowing the acetylene distribution apparatus to be moved as one unit.

10. (Original) The acetylene distribution apparatus of claim 8, whereby the platform is connected to a trailer, thereby allowing the acetylene distribution apparatus to be moved as one unit.

Please add the following new claims:

11. (New) A distribution apparatus for regulating the flow of acetylene from an acetylene source to a point of use, the distribution apparatus comprising:

- a piping system for controlling the flow of acetylene, wherein the piping system includes at least one valve and at least one pressure regulating member;
- an extendable member for providing a flow pathway between the source of acetylene and the piping system; and
- a platform for use in transporting the distribution apparatus.

12. (New) The distribution apparatus of claim 11, wherein the acetylene source comprises at least one acetylene cylinder.
13. (New) The distribution apparatus of claim 11, wherein the platform is a skid constructed and arranged to allow the distribution apparatus to be moved as one unit.
14. (New) The distribution apparatus of claim 11, wherein the platform is mounted on a trailer to allow the distribution apparatus to be moved as one unit.
15. (New) The distribution apparatus of claim 14, wherein the acetylene source comprises at least one trailer assembly having a plurality of acetylene cylinders.
16. (New) The distribution apparatus of claim 14, further including at least one strainer for removing any contaminants from the at least one trailer assembly.
17. (New) The distribution apparatus of claim 14, further including at least one gauge for indicating the pressure of acetylene exiting the trailer assembly.
18. (New) The distribution apparatus of claim 11, further including a connector for attaching the piping system to the point of use.
19. (New) The distribution apparatus of claim 11, further including a flash arrestor as a safety mechanism.
20. (New) The distribution apparatus of claim 11, wherein the piping system is constructed and arranged to reduce the pressure of acetylene flowing therethrough.